

Any warmhearted parent would sacrifice them self for their child or children. It is only natural for a mother bear to protect her cub. Humans are no different. Children are the young flesh and blood of their parents. They are the next generation. They are the ones that will be here on this Earth when their parents are laid to rest. Children have legacies that they will either create or carry on. The children are our future. They are *the* future.

Isaac Weiner was a father of six children. However in his lifetime, he could only save two out of the six from the clutches of death. In 1941, Isaac and his family lived in the Soviet Union which was being invaded by Germany. He and his wife, Machla, believed that the Germans would be stopped at the border. However, for safe measures, Isaac and Machla tried to board their six children onto a train to the east. Unfortunately, only Red Army officers and communists were being given train passes. A Good Samaritan offered Isaac's oldest daughter, Frida, a pass. As the train departed, Issac threw his son, Moishe, on board. Frida and Moishe were the only two of Isaac's children to make it out alive. They did not have to suffer the horrific event that was The Holocaust like the rest of their family who had been killed in mass killings.

Rose Israel Waldhorn has a similar story to that of Isaac Weiner. Rosa was a married woman; her husband's name was Michael. The couple had three kids which they raised, with a good level of education, in Paris. The Germans came to invade France and both Rosa and Michael believed that France was strong enough to take on the Germans. However, they were wrong. The Germans quickly took control of France and Michael was rounded up and deported. After the departure of her husband, Rosa went into hiding in an attic, but not before she sent her three children into hiding in the countryside. Sadly, Rosa's hiding place was denounced and she was deported out of Paris where she was gassed two days later.

A young boy, Miso Vogel, has a story that has a similar concept to Isaac and Rosa, but a very different ending. Miso grew up as happy and normal boy. He went to school and, just like most Jewish boys, he had a bar mitzvah and became a man. He was thrilled because his family was together for the wonderful occasion. All the happiness was drowned in despair when Germany invaded Poland where he lived. The entire family was deported and all of his family members except his father were gassed. His father was kept for slave labor, but he fell ill. Miso visited his father every night after roll call even before his father had gotten sick. As if he sensed his death approaching, Miso's father told him, "Try to survive and carry on the family name." He

was gassed the very next day which left Miso to be the only survivor of his family. Miso was deported to two more camps before he escaped into the woods at the Landsberg Labor Camp. This was about the same time that the U.S. Army had entered the area. Miso successfully immigrated to America in 1946 to carry out his father's dying wish.

The pain, sorrow, despair, anguish, love, life, commitment, faith, religion, and death during this time period sends a powerful message to the surviving citizens. Not only the Holocaust survivors, but those who were never apart of the Holocaust; everyone can learn the same lesson from these three stories: protect the children, for they are our future in which we will all have to live in one day. In all three stories, each parent was able to send at least one of their kids off even if the parent themselves didn't survive the following day. The two children that Isaac sent off, the three that Rosa sent into hiding, and Miso; they all were able to live on and hopefully carry on their family name since their parents could not. The future thrives on the children that are born in this world. The children shape the world. The children can make a difference in the world. The children change the future. The children are the future.